



## Rev. Bruce Will

February 3, 1927 - December 5, 2017

Funeral services for Rev. Bruce Will, 90, of Carthage, Texas will be 2:00 p.m. Friday, December 8, 2017 at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church with Dr. David Holder and Rev. Keith Weaver officiating. Burial will follow in the Harris Chapel Cemetery under the direction of Hawthorn Funeral Home. Visitation will be 6-8:00 p.m. Thursday night at Hawthorn's. Rev. Will died December 5, 2017 in Carthage, Texas.

Rev. Bruce Alexander Will, Jr. was born February 3, 1927 in Beaumont, Texas. He was one of 12 children born to the marriage of Bruce Alexander and Mary Lela Burford Will, Sr. He was schooled and raised in Silsbee, Texas, attended Lamar College and graduated East Texas Baptist College. Bruce served his country through the U.S. Army during WWII. He married Bobbie Jean French April 14, 1945 and they celebrated 72 years of marriage. Bruce worked as a master tool and die maker. He was ordained in 1958 and served many churches in East Texas in both Harrison and Panola Counties. He was a member of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. He is preceded in death by his parents, son, Bruce "Bo" Will, III, and daughter, Nancy Youngblood, siblings, Pansy Ruth Knight, Madeline Miller, Grover Will, Lois Lela Deruin, Homer Donald Will, and Bernice Williams.

Rev. Will is survived by his loving wife, Bobbie Will of Carthage, son, Bobby Will and wife Gail of Beckville, daughters, Kathy Adams of Whitehouse and Peggy Sue Harris and husband Ronnie of Beckville, brothers, Ted Will of Lumberton, Otis Will of Kountze, sisters, Juanita Jordan and husband David of

Rosepine, Doris Cascio of Beaumont, and Rose Smith of Casper, Wyoming, nine grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends.

Serving as pallbearers will be Terry Will, David Adams, Patrick Harris, Robert Baker, Nathan Youngblood and Phillip Youngblood.

A guestbook may be signed at [www.hawthornfuneralhome.com](http://www.hawthornfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Harris Chapel Cemetery

5089 FM 959  
Tatum, TX 75691

# Previous Events

## Service

DEC 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
5824 FM 959  
Tatum, TX 75691

# Tribute Wall



“ Hawthorn Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rev. Bruce Will



Hawthorn Funeral Home - December 07, 2017 at 06:46 PM

GH

“ Just heard of his passing was a wonderful pastor at Athey Baptist Church in Harleton Tx great family , Family of Ivalynne Hopkins Copeland



glenda henigan - April 30, 2018 at 11:05 PM

LT

“ Larry V. Tidwell lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will



Larry V. Tidwell - December 10, 2017 at 05:20 AM

LT

“ Brother Will was a kind and loving Pastor of mine while I was a member of the Crossroads Baptist Church. I remember his gracious attitude and his willingness to serve all the congregation at time of grief and bereavement. I became an ordained Deacon under his leadership. I still have and cherish a New Testament he gave to me at the time of my ordination. I will continue to pray for his family for the grace to cope with his absence during this holiday season. With warm regards in Christ Jesus, Rev. Larry V. Tidwell

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**Larry V. Tidwell** - December 10, 2017 at 05:18 AM

JD

“ We have gone through good times and sad times with the Will Family. We cherish all of those memories. May God give you peace and assurance today and in the days to come. You are all very special to us.

Our love and prayers,

Jerry, Pat, Jeremy, Lance and Emerson Kate Dorman

Isaiah 40:31



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**Jerry and Pat (Edens) Dorman** - December 08, 2017 at 12:46 PM

CF

“ Always enjoyed listening to Bro. Will when he filled in at First Baptist at Beckville. He was a true Man of God. Prayers are with the family during this time. Love, Charlotte Fannin

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**Charlotte Fannin** - December 08, 2017 at 11:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hawthorn Funeral Home - December 08, 2017 at 09:54 AM



“ 38 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Hawthorn Funeral Home - December 07, 2017 at 05:06 PM



“ *Kim Mills lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will*



Kim Mills - December 07, 2017 at 02:20 PM

BE

“ He will be remembered by many through out Panola County for his love and dedication to God, first and foremost. and to his family and friends. We are all going to miss this wonderful servant to all. Prayers for Mrs. Bobbie and family.



Becky Eubank - December 07, 2017 at 11:15 AM

NS

Bro Bruce Will baptized our son Paul . Tom and muscle self . Memries at Crossroads from the early 80's sermons I recall one on "pride" and another on "Pointing your finger judging another" one finger points forward and the other 3 pointing at \*yourself"!

Nancy Swirchack - December 07, 2017 at 11:07 PM



“ Sorry to hear of your loss. He was a faithful man of God. He will be missed. Lucy Heck

Stacie Jackson - December 07, 2017 at 10:42 AM

DR

“ Bro. Will has set a level of love and life we all admire. A wonderful man of God. May his family be bless at this time. Looking forward to see Bro. Will again.

Don Ransom - December 07, 2017 at 10:02 AM

BG

“ *Bill And Kathy Gollmitzer lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will*



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**Bill and Kathy Gollmitzer** - December 07, 2017 at 09:39 AM

DR

“ *Dianne Dailey Resta*



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**Dianne Dailey Resta** - December 07, 2017 at 12:26 AM



“ *I remember Brother Will as a friendly man who always spoke to you. The whole family are some of the nicest people you will ever meet.*

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**Alice Searcy** - December 06, 2017 at 07:37 PM



“ *Alice Searcy purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rev. Bruce Will.*



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**Alice Searcy** - December 06, 2017 at 07:32 PM

RP

“ Rhonda Pitts lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will



Rhonda Pitts - December 06, 2017 at 04:55 PM

MH

“ Martha Holland lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will



Martha Holland - December 06, 2017 at 11:15 AM



“ Elaine Ross lit a candle in memory of Rev. Bruce Will



Elaine Ross - December 06, 2017 at 05:06 AM

MF

*Rev. Bruce Will was both a fine man and an outstanding man of God! I have know him all my life, He Baptized my brothers, sisters and myself during the very early 1960's after we'd joined the Grand Bluff Baptist church in that community. I remember seeing him at many school and social functions, he was THE VERY BEST!! Gone BUT not forgotten! May God Bless him, his family friends, etc.*

*THANK YOU Bro. Will!!!*

Mike Ford - December 06, 2017 at 05:11 PM

BH

*Bro. Will may be gone but lives on in our mind. Our loss is heaven's gain. Rest in Peace old friend. Prayers to the family.*

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**Bill Hutto** - December 06, 2017 at 06:46 PM

FK

*Enjoyed working with Bro. Bruce at Atlas Chemical Ind. in Marshall. He was quiet a man and loved his Lord. I remembered early on that he was very goosey and a lot of fun to be around.*

*Frank Kay*

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**Frank Kay** - December 07, 2017 at 03:12 PM

JH

*I remember Bro. Will while pastoring at Crossroads and our many visits. I cherish those precious memories. Hugs and love to Ms. Bobbie and family. Prayers*

*Jean Hillin*

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**Jean Hillin** - December 15, 2017 at 09:25 PM